

80 Popple Bottom Rd
Sandwich, MA 02563
July 25, 2006

Comments on the Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS on the Cape Wind Project
Minerals Management Service
381 Elden Street
MS 4042
Herndon VA, 20164

Re: Proposed Wind Farm in Nantucket Sound

Dear Workers at MMS:

I am a retired engineer, having spent the last 25 years of my working life in the electric utility industry. My work included evaluations of alternate sites for large electric generating plants and management of various environmental studies regarding operation of these plants. I've lived on Cape Cod the past 17 years and enjoyed fishing and sailing excursions on Horseshoe shoals. Along with many other people in SE Massachusetts, I also suffer respiratory problems, which, I strongly suspect are, at least, partly due to fossil-burning power plants.

Until a few years ago, I was opposed to the large-scale use of wind farms for generating electricity, primarily due to the extremely large land areas required and my perception that they would be an unsightly scar on the landscape. However, after studying the Cape Wind proposal and considering where we are with respect to the rest of the world, I now fully support Cape Wind's proposal. I believe that this is really a "no-brainer" decision - when one considers our disastrous dependence on foreign fossil fuels, the wars related to this dependency, adverse health and environmental impacts associated with continued burning of fossil fuels, and delays in development and license applications for next generation nuclear power plants.

I am convinced that the wind farm will not have significant adverse impacts on fishing or other uses of Nantucket sound and that the perceived adverse visual impact is an acceptable risk. In fact, I strongly suspect that the latter impact will eventually be seen as a benefit by the local tourist industry and will be acceptable to most people who live on the shoreline within view of the windmills and by those who frequent Horseshoe shoals. It seems to me to be a pretty straightforward and highly favorable trade-off:

The benefits – a beginning in the needed reduction in our dependency of foreign fuels and a reduction in the number of premature deaths, respiratory diseases, and harmful environmental effects of burning fossil fuels.

The cost - acceptance of a perceived adverse visual impact for those of us who use and/or view Horseshoe shoals.

Other concerns pale in comparison to considerations of the relative impacts on our health and our energy security.

One of the most telling statements at the COE hearing in Yarmouth, MA 2 years ago came from a tourist agent who had studied the visual impact issue very thoroughly, including a trip to offshore wind farm sites in Denmark. She concluded that the wind farm would **benefit** the local tourist industry and the local economy, contradicting the opinions of the two state politicians, who stated their opposition to the project at the beginning of the evening. I note with interest that, whereas the tourist agent's conclusions as well as the analyses in the COE's DEIS are based on in-depth analyses and factual information, the opinions expressed by the politicians did not appear to be backed up by any such factual data or analyses.

Regional grid operator ISO-New England has warned repeatedly of looming electricity shortages; and the region needs to add 600 megawatts every year to keep up with this demand. Please develop a positive report and give your full approval to the wind farm.

Thank you for considering my views on this most important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G. James Davis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

G. James Davis